balances available in the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the State, a sum of Rs. 155.68 crore has been released from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

CLA for Rajasthan

1711. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that animal decline in ground water in drought, arid and desert conditions in Rajasthan has resulted in loss of lacs of hectares of fertile land to the State;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry is willing to discuss with the Ministry of Water Resources to allow Rajasthan with liberal norms for Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP); and

(c) if so, by when the CLA would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Due to deficit rainfall, decline in ground water, etc., only 49.20 lakh hectare area could be sown in Rajasthan in Kharif 2002-03 as against normal coverage of 88.70 lakh hectare. Also, only 31.95 lakh hectare area could be sown in Rajasthan in Rabi 2002-03 as against normal coverage of 66.69 lakh hectare.

(b) and (c) Rajasthan State, being a reforming State under AIBP norms, have been provided with CLA in the ratio of 4:1 (Centre State) instead of 2:1 given to non-reforming States. An amount of Rs. 558.232 crores has been released to Rajasthan State under AIBP during 1996-97 to 2002-2003.

Production of European vegetables

†1712. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating any project to produce European vegetables in the country itself;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the names of the States where these vegetables will be produced; and

(c) the names of the said vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government of India is promoting growing of vegetables through Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Macro Management of Agriculture—Supplementation/ Complementation of States' efforts" through work plans. Under the scheme states have greater flexibility to pursue promotion of growing of vegetables including European vegetables as per their needs.The focus of the scheme is to improve the production and productivity of vegetables, increase the availability of quality seeds of high yielding cultivars and to disseminate production & post harvest technologies to farmers through participatory demonstrations and trainings. Besides, National Horticulture Board under its scheme on "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management" provide assistance in the form of back ended capital subsidy @ 20% of total project cost with a maximum limit of Rs. 25.00 lakhs for growing of vegetables including European vegetables. This is project based scheme.

(b) The schemes are implemented in all States/UTs.

(c) The European vegetables generally grown are broccoli, lettuce, celery, asparagus, Brussels sprout, French bean, leek etc.

Grants to KVKs in Orissa

1713. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the grant provided to Krishi Vigyan Kendras working in Orissa by Government during the last three years, place-wise; and

(b) the details of programmes undertaken by those Kendras for benefits of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) During the last three years (1999-2000 to 2001 -2002), an amount of Rs. 725.15 lakhs were released to 12 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in Orissa. The details are given in the Statement (See below).